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A COMPLETE SET OF PENDING CLAIMS

Claims 1-18 have been previously canceled.

19. (As filed) A method for fabricating a dental appliance, said method comprising:

providing a digital data set representing a modified tooth arrangement for a patient;

controlling a fabrication machine based on the digital data set to produce a positive model of the modified tooth arrangement;

producing the dental appliance as a negative of the positive model; applying a lubricious composition to the surface of the dental appliance.

20. (As filed) A method as in claim 19, wherein the controlling step comprises:

providing a volume of non-hardened polymeric resin; scanning a laser to selectively harden the resin in a shape based on the

digital data set to produce the positive model.

- 21. (As filed) A method as in claim 19, wherein the producing step comprises molding the appliance over the positive model.
- 22. (As filed) A method for fabricating a dental appliance, said method comprising:

providing a first digital data set representing a modified tooth arrangement for a patient;

producing a second digital data set from the first data set, wherein the second data set represents a negative model of the modified tooth arrangement;

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controlling a fabrication machine based on the second digital data set to produce the dental appliance;

applying a lubricious composition to the surface of the dental appliance.

- 23. (As filed) A method as in claim 22, wherein the controlling step comprises selectively hardening a non-hardened resin to produce the appliance and separating the appliance from the remaining liquid resin.
- 24. (As filed) A method as in claim 22, wherein the appliance comprises a polymeric shell having a cavity shaped to receive and resiliently reposition teeth from an initial tooth arrangement to the modified tooth arrangement.
- 25. (As filed) A method as in claim 22, wherein the appliance is coated with a polar chemical to provide a hydrophilic surface.
- 26. (As filed) A method as in claim 25, wherein the chemical is one of hydrogels, 2-HEMA (2-hydroxy ethyl methacrylate), NVP (n-vinyl pyrolidone), or acrylyamide, PEO (polyethylene oxide) at various molecular weights, PPO (polypropylene oxide), MA (methacrylic acid), and AA (acrylic acid).
- 27. (As filed) A method as in claim 22, wherein the appliance is coated with a non-polar chemical to provide a hydrophobic surface.
- 28. (As filed) A method as in claim 22, wherein the appliance is coated with an oily substance to provide a hydrophobic surface.
- 29. (As filed) A method as in claim 27, wherein the oily substance is either PTFE or silicone or mineral oil.
- 30. (As filed) A method as in claim 22, wherein the appliance is coated with a chemical to make its surface slippery.

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- 31. (As filed) A method as in claim 22, wherein the appliance has a surface adapted to imbibe and hold a micromolecular layer of water to lubricate the lips or the side of the mouth.
- 32. (As filed) A method as in claim 22, wherein the composition is applied by a spraying operation.
- 33. (As filed) A method as in claim 22, wherein the composition is applied using an electro-static discharge and further comprising baking the appliance.
- 34. (As filed) A method as in claim 22, wherein the composition is applied by a dipping operation.
- 35. (As filed) A method as in claim 22, wherein the surface of the appliance is pretreated.
- 36. (As filed) A method as in claim 35, wherein the precoating treatment includes one or more of the following: corona discharging, acid etching or solvent etching.
- 37. (As filed) A method as in claim 35, wherein the precoating treatment includes one or more of the following: sanding, abrasing, tumbling and sand blasting.
- 38. (As filed) A method as in claim 22, wherein the surface of appliance can be modified using one or more of the following: coating, grafting, laminating and interpenetrating networks.

Please add claims 39-56.

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39. (New) A system for repositioning teeth from an initial tooth arrangement to a final tooth arrangement, said system comprising a plurality of dental incremental position adjustment appliances including:

a first appliance having a geometry selected to reposition the teeth from the initial tooth arrangement to a first intermediate arrangement;

one or more intermediate appliances having geometries selected to progressively reposition the teeth from the first intermediate arrangement to successive intermediate arrangements; and

a final appliance having a geometry selected to progressively reposition the teeth from the last intermediate arrangement to the final tooth arrangement;

wherein the surface of each appliance has a lubricious composition coupled thereto.

- 40. (New) A system as in claim 30, wherein the appliances comprise polymeric shells having cavities shaped to receive and resiliently reposition teeth from one arrangement to a successive arrangement.
- 41. (New) A system as in claim 40, wherein the tooth positions defined by the cavities in each successive appliance differ from those defined by the prior appliance by no more than 2 mm.
- 42. (New) A system as in claim 39, comprising at least two intermediate appliances.
- 43. (New) A system as in claim 42, comprising at least ten intermediate appliances.
- 44. (New) A system as in claim 43, comprising at least twenty-five intermediate appliances.

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45. (New) A method for repositioning teeth from an initial tooth arrangement to a final tooth arrangement, said method comprising:

placing a first incremental position adjustment appliance in a patient's mouth, wherein the first appliance has a geometry selected to reposition the teeth from the initial tooth arrangement to a first intermediate arrangement;

successively replacing one or more additional appliances, wherein the additional appliances have geometries selected to progressively reposition the teeth from the first intermediate arrangement to successive intermediate arrangements; and

placing a final appliance into the patient's mouth, wherein the final appliance has a geometry selected to progressively reposition the teeth from the last intermediate arrangement to the final tooth arrangement, wherein the surface of each appliance has a lubricous composition coupled thereto.

- 46. (New) A method as in claim 45, wherein the appliances comprise polymeric shells having cavities shaped to receive and resiliently reposition teeth from one arrangement to a successive arrangement.
- 47. (New) A method as in claim 46, where the tooth positions defined by the cavities in each successive appliance differ from those defined by the prior appliance by no more than 2 mm.
- 48. (New) A method as in claim 45, wherein the successively placing step comprises placing at least two additional appliances prior to placing the final appliance.
- 49. (New) A method as in claim 48, wherein the successively placing step comprises placing at least ten additional appliances.
- 50. (New) A method as in claim 45, wherein the successively placing step comprises placing at least twenty-five additional appliances.

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- 51. (New) A method as in claim 45, wherein the appliances are successively replaced at an interval in the range from 2 days to 20 days.
- 52. (New) An improved method for repositioning teeth using appliances comprising polymeric shells having cavities shaped to receive and resiliently reposition teeth to produce a final tooth arrangement, wherein the improvement comprises determining at the outset of treatment geometries for at least three appliances which are to be worn successively by a patient to reposition teeth from an initial tooth arrangement to the final tooth arrangement and coating the interior of each of the polymeric shells with a lubricous composition.
- 53. (New) An improved method as in claim 52, wherein at least four geometries determined at the outset.
- 54. (New) An improved method as in claim 53, wherein at least ten geometries are determined at the outset.
- 55. (New) An improved method as in claim 54, wherein at least twenty-five geometries are determined at the outset.
- 56. (New) An improved method as in claim 52, wherein the tooth positions defined by the cavities in each successive geometry differ from those defined by the geometry by no more than 2 mm.

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